

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

This "documentary" is a tissue of bald-faced lies fabricated by Republican operatives with no interest in serving the public interest, much less telling the truth.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But this "documentary" is out and out propaganda of the most despicable variety. This simply demonstrates how, when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

This scurilous attack on the democratic process cannot be permitted to go forward. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.